

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A recording apparatus generates key information based  
at least on contents reproduction permission information,  
encrypts contents based on the key information, and records  
the encrypted contents and recording date/time information  
on a recording medium. A reproducing apparatus reads the  
encrypted contents and the recording date/time information  
from the recording medium, acquires reproduction date/time  
10 information on the encrypted contents and, based on the  
recording date/time information that was read, the  
reproduction date/time information, and reproduction  
permission limit information on the encrypted contents,  
generates contents reproduction permission information  
15 indicating that the encrypted contents may be reproduced. The  
reproducing apparatus generates key information based at least  
on the contents reproduction permission information and  
decrypts the encrypted contents that were read.